



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 25, 2005

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## **DAWN DANIELSON NAMED ANIMAL SERVICES DIRECTOR** *Department veteran takes over top job*

Dawn Danielson, a 25-year veteran of the County Department of Animal Services, has been appointed director of the department.

County Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Alex Martinez announced Danielson's appointment today. She replaces Mikel Haas, who has been named Registrar of Voters. Danielson officially takes over the department on March 18.

"I'm really pleased to make this announcement," Alex Martinez said. "Dawn Danielson has risen through the ranks of the department and is very familiar with its people and operations. She's a friend of animals who will see to it that the department provides superior service to the public and to the animals it serves."

Dr. Mark Goldstein, President of the San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, praised the selection.

"I am very happy with Dawn Danielson's appointment as San Diego County's new Director of Animal Services and feel the people and animals in the county are lucky to have her," he said. "She is compassionate and knowledgeable about animals and at the same time works well with people. The San Diego Humane Society and I look forward to working with Dawn together in strengthening the human-animal bond."

Danielson began her career in 1977 as an Animal Control Officer. She was promoted through the supervisory ranks and in 1983 was appointed District Manager, responsible for managing all patrol, shelter and clerical staff at the North County Shelter in Carlsbad.

Over the next 14 years, Danielson worked or managed operations at each of the department's three regional shelters. In November 2001, she was appointed Assistant Director. In April 2004, when she was named Acting Director after Haas was appointed a Special Policy Advisor to Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard.

She has three dogs, three cats, 11 pet hens and one pet rooster.

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